

# SWEET GRASS COUNTY

## Local Emergency Planning Committee (L.E.P.C.)

### All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

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#### Minutes

Date of Meeting: **January 26, 2023 11:30 AM**

Location: **Ambulance Hall, Meeting Room; 220 W 1<sup>ST</sup> AVE; Big Timber MT**

#### Attendees:

Bill Wallace, SG Commissioner  
J.V. Moody, SG Commissioner  
Melanie Roe, SG Commissioner  
Alan Ronneberg, Sheriff  
Corey Austin, HS Superintendent  
Andrew Bullock, EMS Manager  
Dan Tronrud, Community Health  
Cory Conner, SG Public Works

Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief  
Angie Matos, USFS  
Levi Duncan, USFS  
Matt McManamen, East Boulder (Virtual)  
Zane Leonard, East Boulder  
Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator  
Kevin Langhus, SGC SAR

**The meeting was called to order** by Clifford Brophy DES / E9-1-1 Coordinator at 11:30 AM

**The pledge of allegiance to the US Flag** was recited

**Minutes for the Meeting on December 22, 2022** were approved as submitted.

**Welcome and self-introductions:** Completed

#### **Local Emergency Planning Committee (L.E.P.C.) Topics:**

Election of Officers: Cliff Brophy was nominated for Chair, Sec/Treas and Information Officer. Melanie moved that nominations cease and election be cast by unanimous ballot. JV seconded. Cliff was elected by unanimous vote. Kris Novotny was nominated for Vice-chair. Alan Ronneberg moved that nominations cease and election be cast by unanimous vote. Melanie seconded. Motion passed with Kris opposing (in jest). Kris did accept the position.

Action on prioritizing grant applications for State Homeland Security Grant programs. Cliff announced that there was only one SHSG application this year from our county. That one would be the re-submission of last year's unsuccessful application for replacement repeater radios on Grey Cliff repeater site. Melanie moved to recommend the Grey Cliff radio replacement grant application as number one priority. Kris seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Disaster and Emergency Services (D.E.S.) Topics:**

Members were asked for scheduling suggestions for various Tabletop Exercises (TTX). The second attempt for the multi-jurisdictional "Boulder River Valley evacuation due to fire" exercise will be held in April. Final date selection will be coordinated with Park County and USFS. Cliff will contact managers of the Glasston Lakes Dams to see if they planned on a TTX this year or not. Stillwater-Sibanye may have a TTX later this year. They will keep us updated on that possible TTX.

Cliff reported that several updates for the County/City Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) were submitted for action. The members have been working on these for the last few months. Those updated are: #16 Direction, Control and Warning; #17 Evacuation; and #18 Shelter/Mass Care. Kris moved to accept the changes for those annexes, JV seconded. Discussion was held on the list of radio frequencies. With other changes in the communications projects, it was informally agreed on that we would convene a subcommittee to meet and work out a complete communications update to be submitted for the next EOP update.

Cliff reported that the American Red Cross has our replacement cots but they are in Great Falls. Currently we do not have cots to use in the Civic Center. Red Cross does have personal needs kits and blankets at the center. For now, they have cots to bring in to this area if needed.

Wester Region Mitigation project is still moving forward. The State held a meeting last Friday. Cliff, Melanie and Kris attending the meeting. Each spoke about their thoughts of the meeting.

**Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:**

Cliff reported that not much has changed in status for the projects. Still waiting for equipment to ship and for companies to find enough employees to complete jobs.

The call routing inventory for cellular carriers in the area has been all but completed. There is one new tower in the county that will be plotted and added to the inventory. Third Signal LLC obtained records from the mobile cell companies as well as actual E9-1-1 call data for a three-month period. These calls were plotted based on location and the PSAP that received the data. Most of the Sweet Grass County calls on in-county cell towers were routed correctly. One cell tower inside of Park County was picking up calls in SGC and routing them to Park County PSAP. The correction request was submitted to have those calls routed properly. 2 or 3 cell towers in SGC will have names assigned to the sectors instead of hard to read coordinates. This will assist dispatch in locating caller's locations. The project also included dispatch training on mobile cell devices and related technology.

**Public Health Topics:**

None

**Fire Topics:**

Angie with the USFS reiterated that they will participate in the TTX, just let them know the dates. She also reported that prescribed burning in the Crazy Mountains. Will stop for a time. There is too much snow in the Crazy's but not enough in the Beartooth's.

Kris reported that they had a HAZMAT refresher last night. He thanked LE and EMS for participating. It was well attended and it went well.

**Public Works:**

Cory Conner reported that the Melville bridge is in and being used. They are now waiting for warm weather so they can finish the project.

**National Weather Service:**

No report. Forecast reports sent via email

**Mitigation Progress:**

Cliff reported that the new DOT GOV emails for certain government offices is progressing. Some of the offices have been switched over to DOT GOV.

No recent updates to the progress of other mitigation projects and tasks. The most recent updates were documented and distributed to the members and to the State Western Region Mitigation group.

**Comments from Members:**

Corey Austin thanked the county for the recent delineator markers placed alongside of the Howe Road. The bus drivers appreciated it greatly.

**Select Next Meeting Date: Thursday, February 23, 2023 11:30 AM**

**Public Comments:** None given

**Adjourn:** 12:20 pm

Submitted by



Clifford Brophy  
DES/911 Coordinator